

**REMARKS**

**INTRODUCTION:**

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 19-31 and 34 have been cancelled. New claim 40 has been added. Claims 1-6, 8-18 and 35-40 are pending and under consideration. Claims 1-18 and 35-39 are allowed. New claim 40 includes features of allowed claims 1 and 16. The outstanding rejections are moot since the rejected claims are cancelled.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

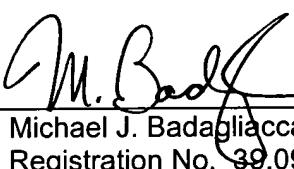
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Response, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 5-24-04

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